

INFORMATION NOTICE

WORKFORCE SERVICES

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TO: WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT COMMUNITY

SUBJECT: LWIA ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONFERENCE CALL MINUTES—
OCTOBER 19, 2007

The minutes from the Local Workforce Investment Area (LWIA) Advisory Committee conference call on Friday, October 19, 2007, are attached for your review and information. Please ensure that the minutes are provided to the appropriate staff.

If you have any questions regarding the minutes, please contact Terrietta Robinson at (916) 654-8035 or James W. Scholl at (916) 657-4610.

/S/ BILL BURKE
Assistant Deputy Director
Workforce Services Branch

/S/ BOB HERMSMEIER
Chief
Workforce Services Division

Attachment

LOCAL WORKFORCE INVESTMENT AREA
ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONFERENCE CALL

Friday, October 19, 2007

Agenda

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|---------|--|---|
| 10 a.m. | Welcome/Agenda Building/Hot Topics | Bob Hermsmeier/
Bill Burke, Workforce
Services Branch |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• State Budget Update• Integration• Proposals: WIA 25 percent Dislocated Worker• National Emergency Grant Application – Mortgage Industry | |
| | CWIB Updates | Barbara Halsey,
California Workforce
Investment Board |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Senate Bill (SB) 293• Common Measures• Waivers• State Plan• Annual Report• Special Committees Update• Status of Regional Collaborative/Local Coordination (RC/LC) Proposal• Report out on Admin. Committee meeting October 10, 2007• Next steps with the One-Stop Cost Study | |

LOCAL WORKFORCE INVESTMENT AREA ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONFERENCE CALL MINUTES

Friday, October 19, 2007

Welcome/Agenda Building/Hot Topics—Bob Hermsmeier/ Workforce Services Branch (WSB)

State Budget Update—Bob Hermsmeier, WSB. The Department is waiting for the Department of Finance and the Governor's Office to finalize decisions on the Workforce Investment Act (WIA) 15 percent budget. Additionally, the department is taking steps to accommodate the \$12.1 million reduction to the Contingent Fund. Specifically, the department will continue to identify savings in its operating costs, will not refill some vacant positions, and will redirect some staff to other programs. The redirection of selected staff should start in November 2007.

The department has initiated the Section 28 process to obtain state spending authority for the Disability Program Navigator (DPN) grant funds. When approval of spending authority is obtained, WSB will put the funds into the local area's subgrants. Once the subgrants have been fully executed, the local areas can retroactively charge to the DPN funding source. Bob noted WSB would send an email by the end of October advising local areas of the amount of their DPN grant.

Governors from six states (California, Illinois, Texas, Florida, New York and Ohio) signed a letter which was sent to the Chairperson and the ranking members of the Senate and House Appropriation Subcommittees. The letter objected to the proposed rescission of WIA funds on the basis the Department of Labor (DOL) was providing incorrect information when they concluded that states and local areas have excess unspent WIA funds. The letter also cited the June 2007 report issued by the General Accounting Office which affirmed that the DOL had overestimated annual WIA carryforward amounts. Though the letter from the six states has been sent, the rescission is still an issue since the Bush administration still supports the rescission. However, until an appropriations bill for 2008 is passed by congress, the WIA activities are currently being funded through a continuing resolution which will expire November 16, 2007.

Integration—Kathy Castillo, WSB. All 12 partners of the integration process agreed to participate in town hall meetings. Dennis Petrie is currently in the process of scheduling some of these town hall meetings for November and December with priority given to those learning labs that have not been visited by Greg Newton.

The WSB is finalizing an information notice that explains the integration effort including the role of the learning labs. The notice will include questions and answers.

Proposals: WIA 25 Percent Dislocated Worker—Bob Hermsmeier, WSB. Directive WSD07-3 entitled “Dislocated Worker Additional Assistance Projects” establishes the priority for awarding the available resources left in the WIA 25 percent account. WSB is continuing to process those projects against these priorities.

The Labor and Workforce Development Agency (Agency) recently announced their approval of WIA 25 percent funding for projects submitted by the North Central Counties Consortium and Mendocino, as well as the Veterans Solicitation for Proposal. There are an additional nine proposals still in the pipeline awaiting approval. Assuming that these nine proposals are approved, the WIA 25 percent account will be depleted of funds. Because of this pending situation, WSB is closely monitoring current recipients of WIA 25 percent funding to ensure they need the total amount of their award. If the funds in these projects are not being used, or are not needed, WSB will recapture amounts not being utilized to fund future requests. However, Bob noted Agency makes the final decision on who receives WIA 25 percent funding.

National Emergency Grant (NEG) Application – Mortgage Industry—Bob Hermsmeier, WSB. As part of gathering information needed for the application of NEG funds for the mortgage industry, Bob noted there had been an issue of getting data from the local areas in the proper format. As such, because of this formatting issue, some local areas pulled out of the grant application. However, WSB is now working with the remaining ten local areas to obtain the detail needed to finalize the application to the DOL. Bob stated this NEG application was focusing only on the impact to employees of the lending institutions and does not incorporate the trickle down affect to employees of other industries that support the mortgage industry. However, WSB is encouraging local areas to supply their regional advisor with data on how this does affect employees of other related industries since the department may submit another NEG to serve this additional population.

California Workforce Investment Board (CWIB) Updates—Barbara Halsey, CWIB.

Senate Bill (SB) 293—The first two round table discussions will be in San Bernardino and Oroville. Hopefully, the third round table can be held in Merced. The Governor’s Small Business Advocate and the California Department of Transportation are very interested in participating in the round table discussions.

Common Measures—Secretary Bradshaw has signed off on a letter to the DOL requesting the Common Measures waiver. The letter was sent to the DOL on October 15, 2007.

Waivers/State Plan—The CWIB has received a letter from the DOL stating that California’s State Plan has been approved. Barbara indicated there will also be an additional confirmation letter from the DOL indicating they have approved the State’s waiver requests.

Annual Report—The CWIB is currently working on the narrative portions of the WIA Annual Report. Barbara stated the data elements for the report have been posted with the DOL and that the local areas supplied some great input of what the system is doing and how it all fits together. She also stated the final report should be published in a few weeks.

Special Committees Update—The Special Committees have not met.

Status of Regional Collaborative/Local Coordination (RC/LC) Proposals—The CWIB has submitted and recommended the funding of four proposals to Agency. Barbara stated she would follow up with Agency on the status of their recommendations and would notify the local areas as soon as a decision is made.

Report out on Administration Committee Meeting October 10, 2007—The Administration Committee adopted a framework and draft policy for integration and the learning labs. The committee also discussed the WIA 25 percent funding. The membership of the Administration Committee was supportive of moving monies out as need is identified and have reaffirmed their direction to staff. They also strongly supported moving forward with applications to DOL for NEG funds.

Next Steps with the One-Stop Cost Study—Rick Moore has completed his review of the data points for this study and Barbara expected the final product to be published on their web site before the end of the month.

Concerning next steps, Barbara stated she would like to establish an ad hoc workgroup. This workgroup would be comprised of both state and local partners to review the report and develop system improvements. Jan Vogel and Andrea Baker volunteered for the workgroup. Virginia Hamilton indicated that the One-Stop Cost Study is an agenda item for the Workforce Innovations Conference.